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## CAPITAL REPORT

# Secrets of RFE Are Not So Carefully Guarded

By FULTON LEWIS, JR.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17—My informants in the topside of Radio Free Europe in New York inform me that the organization is facing some drastic budget cutting as a result of dwindling public and corporate contributions.

I have various suggestions as to where they could easily cut expenditures without any appreciable loss of performance.

The first spot would be to disband the army of special security police which they have maggoting through the Free Europe complex in Munich. It is obvious from my own experience that they are a total loss.

I have just received, for example, a massive consignment of goodies, selected from the police-protected files in Munich, some of them photostats, some of them microfilm. My several correspondents there assure me that they can supply, on 48-hour notice, photostats of any particular document I may specify, and a bibliography of documents on any general subject or individual.

Inasmuch as I have been receiving such material from at least three independent correspondents, unknown to each other, and their deliveries turn up duplicates of the same documents, there seems to be no question as to their authenticity. By way of further corroboration, I have referred the material to my contacts within the Free Europe organization in New York and they assure me that all are genuine.

FOR EXAMPLE, I have one document marked "Confidential," 7 April 1956." In the up-

per left hand corner: "Not to be taken from the offices of RFE." The correspondent who supplied it, says proudly that he obeyed the latter injunction to the letter.

"I had this photostat made on the machine in the RFE headquarters and thus did not have to remove the document from the premises."

There is nothing random about the services of these correspondents all of whom I know personally. There is a German efficiency that is quite impressive.

For example, the Crusade for Freedom issued a statement to the United Press attempting to answer a column of mine in which I listed six specific Free Europe defectors to Communist Czechoslovakia. I sent a photostat of the press release to my correspondents and within the fortnight, the replies bounced back.

They supplied the complete RFE file on each of the six names I mentioned, and then, presumably on the theory that I must be interested in defectors, supplied between them, four additional cases I knew nothing about.

THUS, to my original list of Kucera, Zapletal, Foltá, Molin, Dvorakova and Kalas are now added another Kalas and his wife, Bohumil Lausman, Antonin Vanha and Jan Havlik.

It seems unfortunate that such exemplary service is not available in the press associations and information bureaus here in the United States. It is a reflection on our dedication to service.



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MERRY WASHINGTON  
"Just as we suspected! It's been secretly working for Russia!"

I'm not at all sure in my own mind how much there is in the Free Europe files in Munich—except for the refugee personnel records—that is worthy of security treatment.

I am sure, however, whatever is there, the security police are not keeping it secure and therefore they seem clearly dispensable. Something has to be done, with the reduced budget, to protect the plush jobs of the Ivy League cops-and-robbers kids in the New York office, after all.  
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PAGE

NEW YORK MIRROR,  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1958